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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

CLASSIFICATION

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SECURITY INFORMATION

50X1-HUM

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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COUNTRY Hungary

DATE DISTR. 21 March 1952

SUBJECT Hungarian Shipping Firm MASPED

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. The over-all supervising authority of all Hungarian exports and imports is 50X1-HUM called MASPED, with branch offices in Vienna, Prague, Sofia.
2. There is some indication that MASPED's power extends far beyond the scope of exporting and importing for Hungary and that in fact, since its reorganization during October 1951, it had become the supreme authority for transportation matters affecting southeastern Europe.
3. The supervision of MASPED was transferred during October 1951 from the Ministry of Commerce to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Along with this transfer, it is believed that a change had also taken place in the scope of intelligence gathered by MASPED. Formerly this organization limited itself to the gathering of commercial and economic intelligence. It has been observed since the transfer that collaboration between Hungarian diplomatic representatives and employees of MASPED had greatly increased.

50X1-HUM

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